

Weekly Briefing for RA on West Lake (for week ending April 18, 2014)

Milestones of Progress:

- Workplans for IB, excavated material, Airport safety (by 4/14/14):
- Pre-construction of IB activities (by 4/21/14):
- COE IAG (STL lead)(by 5/5/14): – COMPLETED.
- Public announcement of air monitoring activation, pre-construction site prep, IB schedule (5/15/14):
 - o Five locations for the air monitoring set up will be: Robertson Fire Protection District, 3820 Taussig Road, Bridgeton, MO. The EPA office trailer will also be set up here; Pattonville Fire Department Administration Building, 13900 St. Charles Rock Road, Bridgeton, MO; Pattonville Fire Department #2, 3365 McKelvey Road, Hazelwood, MO; St. Charles Fire Department #2, 1550 South Main Street, St. Charles, MO; and the Spanish Village Park, 12827 Spanish Village Drive, Bridgeton, MO.
 - o We ran into logistical problems last week due to Good Friday as most city offices were closed or short-staffed. The EPA trailer has been placed with equipment in it, but no electricity because the City Inspector was not available. These issues will be rectified this week (4/21-25/14). START has air monitoring equipment on back-order (i.e. housing, TLD's, E-perms.). James Johnson will be down in St. Louis later this week and EPA/ERT/START will be setting up the AreaRaes (VOC monitoring). *Contact: James Johnson, 7058*
- SSE's stability to facilitate IB construction (by 6/1/14):

R7 Superfund Activities:

Region 7, ORD and MDNR held an on-site meeting with the PRPs on Tuesday, April 15th to discuss potential barrier alignments and construction methods and walked the site in the areas that would be affected by the barrier to understand the constraints the site places on these alignments. Region 7 coordinated with USACE to have them present at the upcoming CAG meeting on April 21st.

Dan Gravatt, 7324

Air Issues:

(MDNR/MDHSS air data reporting/rad/odor issues/risk comms) Don Toensing, 7446; (Chuck, 7271/Leslie, 7858)
Region 7 is exploring the addition of a real-time alpha particle air monitor at the suggestion of ORIA. It is believed that the alpha particle monitor will provide a lower level of detection, resulting in overall improved protection of human health. *Contact: Chuck Hooper,*

Elected Officials: *Elected officials (include St L Airport management) inreach to R7, outreach from R7, recent statements OPA Model – Sarah Hatch, 7199; LaTonya Sanders, 7555*

Held a conference call with Congressionals last week. Discussed if EPA is going to continue working with the COE. Also had questions about sampling at the ball field. *Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199*

Missouri Coalition for the Environment/Local Action Group(s):

Letter requesting EMSI be removed from the Westlake Landfill project was submitted. *Ben Washburn, 7364*

Media, conventional and social:

Chris Whitley, 7394 (conventional); Karim Dawani, 7289/Shannon Bond (social), 7445

MEDIA INQUIRIES

St. Louis Public Radio (KWMU) - Veronique LaCapra – 4/11/14: Provided desk statement regarding news story about West Lake Landfill lawsuit. Contact: David Bryan, 7433 (closed)

St. Louis Post-Dispatch – Blythe Bernhard – 4/11/14: Provided desk statement regarding news story about West Lake Landfill lawsuit. Contact: David Bryan, 7433 (closed)

KSDK Channel 5, St. Louis – Casey Nolen – 4/11/14: Provided desk statement regarding news story about West Lake Landfill lawsuit. Contact: David Bryan, 7433 (closed)

The Concordian, Concordia, Mo. – Charles Dunlap – 4/14/14: Questions about the West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

KWMU Public Radio, St. Louis – Veronique LaCapra – 4/15/14: Questions about West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

KSDK Channel 5, St. Louis – Casey Nolen – 4/15/14 - Questions about West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

St. Louis Post-Dispatch – Blythe Bernhard – 4/16/14 - Questions about West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

RadWaste Monitor – Jeremy Dillon – 4/17/14: Questions about West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

St. Louis Post-Dispatch – Blythe Bernhard – 4/17/14: Questions about West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

KWMU Public Radio, St. Louis – Veronique LaCapra – 4/17/14: Questions about West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

KMOX Radio, St. Louis – Michael Calhoun – 4/18/14: Questions about West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

St. Louis American – Rebecca Reavis – 4/18/14: Questions about West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

PRESS RELEASES

EPA and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Establish Interagency Agreement for Work on West Lake Landfill's Isolation Barrier – 4/17/14 – Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394

NEWS CLIPS

Privileged Information FOIA Exempt Do Not Release Deliberative Process Attorney-Client Privilege

St. Louis Post-Dispatch – Lawsuit alleges West Lake Landfill radioactivity has spread off-site – 4/11/14 - A lawyer for a man who has lived near the West Lake Landfill in Bridgeton for more than 30 years, and the lawsuit he filed Friday, say radiation has spread to nearby properties, potentially affecting the health of area residents and employees.

http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/lawsuit-alleges-west-lake-landfill-radioactivity-has-spread-off-site/article_31dcba55-a853-5e8d-b32f-2847624d3fc8.html

KSDK Channel 5, St. Louis – Lawsuit alleges landfill radiation has spread – 4/11/14 - There are new allegations in a federal lawsuit that radioactivity has spread beyond the confines of the West Lake Landfill and into surrounding neighborhoods.

<http://www.ksdk.com/story/news/local/2014/04/11/west-lake-landfill-radioactivity-lawsuit/7626791/>

KWMU Public Radio, St. Louis – Lawsuit Alleges West Lake Landfill Radiation Has Spread Off Site – 4/11/14 - A lawsuit filed on Friday alleges that radiation from the West Lake Landfill has spread into surrounding neighborhoods, contaminating properties there.

<http://news.stlpublicradio.org/post/lawsuit-alleges-west-lake-landfill-radiation-has-spread-site>

KMOX Radio, St. Louis – Class Action Lawsuit Filed Against Bridgeton Landfill – 4/11/14 – A class action lawsuit filed Friday alleges radioactive materials have migrated offsite from the West Lake Landfill in Bridgeton and onto private property.

<http://stlouis.cbslocal.com/2014/04/11/class-action-lawsuit-filed-against-bridgeton-landfill/>

KSDK Ch. 5 St. Louis - Moms want to test for radiation in Bridgeton - 4/16/14 - If the federal government won't test for radiation, some West Lake Landfill neighbors say they'll do it themselves. Dawn Chapman and her group, Just Moms STL, plan to deploy radiation detectors in St. Louis County by the end of the week. The EPA said it does plan to start testing for radiation for the first time, outside West Lake's boundaries.

<http://www.ksdk.com/story/news/2014/04/15/bridgeton-landfill-radiation-testing/7762985/>

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - Law firm donates radiation detector to residents around West Lake Landfill - 4/15/14 -

A lawyer who is suing the owners of West Lake Landfill has donated a \$16,000 radiation detector to a group of concerned residents who live near the Bridgeton site. http://www.stltoday.com/lifestyles/health-med-fit/health/law-firm-donates-radiation-detector-to-residents-around-west-lake/article_e62c8907-9754-55ca-8a66-ab8f2999bf1d.html

KTRS Radio St. Louis - Mysterious Dig Takes Place at West Lake Landfill (video) - 4/15/14 - Harvey Freedman joins McGraw Milhaven to discuss the West Lake Landfill. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d_wzJbCpdWs

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - Mesh barrier to be placed at West Lake Landfill along St. Charles Rock Road - 4/16/14 -

The owners of the radioactive West Lake Landfill in Bridgeton will place a mesh barrier inside the fence along St. Charles Rock Road to capture "windblown solid waste" during an upcoming dig, according to an agreement effective today. http://www.stltoday.com/lifestyles/health-med-fit/health/mesh-barrier-to-be-placed-at-west-lake-landfill-along/article_0a32477d-a332-5b58-9c1c-af021b87e471.html

KDSK Ch. 5 St. Louis - EPA to test for radiation at West Lake Landfill - 6/16/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency has agreed to test for radiation outside the West Lake Landfill. This news comes after a group of neighbors announced that if the EPA wasn't going to do it, they were going to test for radiation themselves.

<http://www.ksdk.com/story/news/2014/04/16/epa-radiation-testing-west-lake-landfill/7797061/>

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KSDK Ch. 5 St. Louis - Bridgeton Landfill owners reach settlement, will pay \$6.8M - 4/17/14 - Residents of more than 400 homes in the vicinity of the Bridgeton Landfill will receive a settlement of more than \$6.8 million for the loss of enjoyment of their homes due to a smell, according to a press release.

<http://www.ksdk.com/story/news/local/2014/04/17/bridgeton-landfill-settlement-68-million-homeowners-odor-lawsuit/7833819/>

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - Bridgeton landfill owners to pay nearby residents \$6.8 million in lawsuit over stink - 4/17/14 - Residents who live in the 400 homes closest to the smoldering Bridgeton Landfill will be compensated thousands of dollars for enduring foul odors from the site in an agreement reached Thursday in a lawsuit against the landfill's owners. http://www.stltoday.com/lifestyles/health-med-fit/health/bridgeton-landfill-owners-will-pay-million-to-nearby-residents-in/article_9d74a35a-4524-5a86-834c-db5e698271e3.html

St. Louis Public Radio - Bridgeton Landfill Owner To Pay Almost \$7 Million To Neighboring Homeowners - 4/17/14 - The owner of the Bridgeton Landfill has agreed to pay almost \$6.9 million to about 400 nearby homeowners who had joined a suit contending that the landfill's odors had damaged their property values.

<http://news.stlpublicradio.org/post/bridgeton-landfill-owner-pay-almost-7-million-neighboring-homeowners>

KMOX Radio St. Louis - Burning Landfill Odor Suit Settled - 4/17/14 - Republic Services announced it has agreed to pay residents of more than 400 homes in the area of the landfill a total of \$6.8 million. The case was handled by Alton attorney Ted Gianaris whose firm will receive one-fourth of the payment with the rest going to residents. <http://stlouis.cbslocal.com/2014/04/17/burning-landfill-odor-suit-settled/>

KMOV Ch. 4 St. Louis - Residents near Bridgeton Landfill to divide up millions after lawsuit is settled - 4/17/14 - Residents who live near the Bridgeton Landfill will receive millions of dollars after they reached a settlement with the landfill's owner, Republic Services. <http://www.kmov.com/news/mobile/Residents-near-Bridgeton-Landfill-to-divide-up-millions-after-lawsuit-is-settled.html>

KTVI Ch. 2 St. Louis - Settlement reached in suit over Bridgeton Landfill - 4/17/14 - Residents living near the Bridgeton Landfill will soon be receiving news about a class action lawsuit settlement. The average resident will be offered a little more than \$12,000. The offers vary depending on where residents live. <http://fox2now.com/2014/04/17/settlement-reached-in-suit-over-bridgeton-landfill/>

St. Louis Business Journal - Bridgeton Landfill agrees to pay \$7 million in class action suit - 4/17/14 - The Bridgeton Sanitary Landfill agreed on Thursday to pay a settlement of \$6.9 million in a class-action lawsuit brought against it by residents who live nearby.

The plaintiffs' attorneys will receive 25 percent of the payment, and the balance will be shared among more than 400 residences near the site. <http://www.bizjournals.com/stlouis/news/2014/04/17/bridgeton-landfill-agrees-to-pay-7-million-in.html>

Associated Press - Settlement reached in lawsuit over Bridgeton Landfill odors, fire - 4/18/14 - The operator of the Bridgeton Landfill in suburban St. Louis will pay nearly \$7 million to settle a class-action lawsuit filed on behalf of hundreds of homeowners living nearby who claimed that noxious odors and an underground fire lowered property values and harmed their quality of life. <http://www.semissourian.com/story/2071603.html>

St. Louis Post Dispatch - McClellan: Farmers near a landfill take the long view - 4/21/14 - The Boenker place is next to the Bridgeton Landfill, which is slowly collapsing in on itself. That is probably because of the fire deep below the surface. Technically, it is not a fire, but a chemical reaction that produces high temperatures.

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Whatever you call it, it is consuming the garbage in the landfill as it travels away from the Boenker place.

http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/columns/bill-mcclellan/mcclellan-farmers-near-a-landfill-take-the-long-view/article_a8655bc9-12a7-53c8-b155-e85f614a9c2a.html

Health Issues:

Meeting with Washington University and Coldwater Creek Facebook group members to explore using the Coldwater Creek Facebook data and expand it into a potential epidemiological study of current and past residents around the Coldwater Creek area. *Denise Jordan-Izaguirre, 1310*

Legal Issues:

On 4/16/2104 EPA and Bridgeton Landfill LLC and Rock Road Industries, Inc. (Respondents) entered into an Administrative Settlement Agreement requiring the performance by Respondents of certain Pre-construction activities at the site to support the construction of the isolation barrier. *David Hoefer, 7503*

Miscellaneous:

St. Louis County Emergency Management has developed a draft Incident Action Plan for a worst-case scenario at the West Lake Landfill site. EPA prepared and provided a fact sheet to the county on EPA's response assets as well as those EPA can access from other federal agencies and special teams through the National Response System. St. Louis County, and other local community authorities, will visit sensitive facilities (daycares, schools, hospitals, elder-care facilities, etc.) within a 2-mile radius of the landfill to communicate the Incident Action Plan and advise each facility to prepare their own facility-specific plans. The St. Louis County plan will be shared with St. Charles County which is expected to conduct a similar effort. EPA has participated in bi-weekly planning calls for this effort since March 24, 2014. *Scott Hayes, 7670*

Upcoming Events/Activities:

April 21, 2014: CAG meeting in Bridgeton.

H:/SUPR/SHARE/Westlake Schedule Tracker/ Weekly Briefing for RA/2014/Jan 2014/Weekly Briefing for RA_21 Apr 2014.docx